

The route to graphene commercialisation

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Graphene - the so called "wonder material" could change the world with what seems endless applications and capabilities. Challenges exist in achieving this commercialisation and a key will be the creation of partnerships and collaborations to make these real from structures, to membranes and electronic applications. The principle of "open Innovation" together with the critical investments in the National Graphene Institute and Graphene Engineering Innovation Centre at The University of Manchester will provide a world leading centre for Graphene research and support the development of applications and business opportunities through partnerships with industry

James Baker – BIO

James joined the University of Manchester from BAE Systems where most recently he was Vice-President of Technology Collaboration Programmes and Managing Director of the Advanced Technology Centres in the UK. In these most recent positions, James developed new and innovative collaborative approaches to technology development and acquisition programmes as well as being responsible for the leadership of the BAE Systems corporate technology programme and activity which involved the development and commercialisation of technologies from both within BAE Systems and its partners in academia and the supply chain. He has more than 25 years' experience of working in high technology businesses primarily in the defence, aerospace and security industry and was also a representative on the joint Industry/Mod Research and Development Group.

James is the Business Director for Graphene@Manchester which covers the business aspects of graphene activity at The University of Manchester including the National Graphene Institute (NGI) and the Graphene Engineering Innovation Centre (GEIC). He will be looking to develop the industrial partnerships and collaborations to accelerate the commercialisation opportunities for graphene, building in the knowledge base of University of Manchester - where graphene was first isolated by Professors Geim and Novoselov. Graphene - the so called "wonder material" could change the world with what seem endless applications and capabilities. The National Graphene Institute will provide a key hub and world leading centre for graphene research and support the development of applications and business opportunities through partnerships with industry.

James is a chartered engineer and a Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology. Married to Nicki, with three children Thomas, Sophie and Annie, James' hobbies include golf, mountain biking and most sports.